markets may witness a slight stiffening of interest rates, with limited decline in sentiments in stock markets followed by a quick recovery. Depending on market sentiments, the rupee may come under pressure, with such depreciation of the rupee, coupled with impact of oil price hike on domestic inflation, impinging on the current soft interest rate regime.

Overall, the impact of possible war in Iraq on growth prospects of Indian economy is likely to be marginal in the short run. Notwithstanding such marginal impact on the economy, the overall growth performance of the Indian economy is unlikely to be seriously affected by the developments in the Gulf, due to clear signs of revival of domestic demand and the resultant buoyancy imparted to the domestic economy.

Increase in revenue collection

†20. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government's revenue through direct and indirect taxes during April to December in the current financial year has increased in comparison to the same period during last year;

(b) if so, the amount collected as additional revenue; and

(c) the names of the items through which this additional amount has been generated alongwith the details of said amount separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The additional revenue collected from direct and indirect taxes during April to December in the current financial year compared with that during the corresponding period of last financial year is as under:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

	(Rs. crore)
Direct Taxes	9256.50
Indirect Taxes	11969.39

(c) Direct taxes are levied on income/wealth. Hence, it is not possible to name the items through which additional revenue has been generated.

As regards indirect taxes, the names of major items through which this additional amount has been generated are given below:

Excise	(Rs. in crore) (April-October 2002)*
Petroleum Products	4256
Iron and Steel	724
Motor Vehicles	577
Electrical and Non-Electrical Machinery	262
Chemical, Plastics, Paints, etc.	253
Customs	
Petroleum Products	1102
Machinery	938
Chemicals	210
*(provisional)	210

Item-wise details of additional revenue for the months of November and December, 2002 are not yet available.

Price index of industrial labours

†21. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a big gap between wholesale price index and the price index of industrial labours during the first nine months of financial year 2002-03;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.